

Application Serial No. 10/0

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Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria,

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:

Gort et al.

Title:

ARTICLE

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Application No.:

10/041,721

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Examiner:

Pape, Joseph D.

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July 11, 2003

(Date of Deposit)

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.56

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and § 1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a prima facie art reference against the claims of the present application.

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TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, and within three (3) months of the mailing date of the foreign search report.

RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

Any document listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 was cited as being relevant during the prosecution of the corresponding International application. A copy of the International Search Report is attached setting forth the portion of each document considered relevant by the examiner. An English-language counterpart of the foreign-language documents has been provided where readily available. The absence of a translation or an English-language counterpart document does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider any submitted document (37 C.F.R. § 1.98 and M.P.E.P. § 609).

Applicants respectfully request that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with M.P.E.P. § 609.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 06-1447. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 06-1447.

Please direct all correspondence to the undersigned attorney or agent at the address indicted below.

Respectfully submitted,

Date Juy 11, 2003

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